OUR MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

Annual Report of the Secretary of War.

INCREASE OF FORCE WANTED.

Details of Expenditures, Appropriations and Estimates.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS.

Prompt Punishment for Ute Outrages Recommended.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23, 1879.

The Secretary of War has submitted the annual report of the operations of his department for the past year. In speaking of the army he says:—

The report of the General of the Army gives in detail the strength of the several branches of the service, and shows the aggregate, as exhibited in the latest returns, to be 2,187 officers, 24,262 men, and 388 officers retired. A portion of this force, however, being necessarily employed in detached or special service, constitutes no part of the force available for actual operations in the field. The Signal Corps, the ordnance sergeants, the commissary sergeants, the West Point detachment, the prison guard at Fort Leavenworth and the recruiting detachments amount in the aggregate to 3,463 enlisted men, and are employed in the performance of important duties connected with the military establishment, but not in the field. I join most heartily with the General of the Army in recommending that the effective force of the line of the army be raised to 25,000 men, exclusive of these detachments. I have had occasion in previous reports to express the opinion that a due regard for the safety of settlers upon our frontiers, the guarding and preservation of our vast and valuable military stores and property, the proper management and control of the Indian tribes and the defence of our extensive border lines, would justify, if they do not imperatively require, a much greater increase of the effective force of the army than is here suggested. Certainly Congress should not hesitate to authorize the enlistment of the full number of 25,000 men for the line of the army, exclusive of the number required for detached duty. It is undeniable that most if not all the disasters attending Indian hostilities are the result of inadequacy of force on our part. The wily Indian seldom if ever strikes a powerful foe. His policy is to take advantage of our weak points on the frontier to inflict heavy losses upon us. The records of this department show that since the close of the war of the rebellion fifty-five officers of the army have been killed in Indian warfare and a corresponding number wounded, besides a proportionate number of men killed and wounded. Among the list of killed will be found the names of such valuable officers as Canby, Custer and Thornburgh.

INDIAN HOSTILITIES.

It was hoped that the last year would prove one of peace with the Indians, but this hope was disappointed by the hostility of the Utes in Colorado and the Apaches in New Mexico. In the efforts for the suppression of these outbreaks the military authorities, including the officers and men engaged, have acted with great promptness and vigor. The conduct of Captain Paine, Company F, Fifth cavalry, and of Captain Dodge, Company D, Ninth cavalry, as shown in official reports, is worthy of high commendation. The massacre of Agent Meeker and others at White River Agency; the killing of Lieutenant Weir, of the ordnance, a gallant young officer who had volunteered for duty with the expedition, and the fall of the lamented and gallant Major Thornburgh and others of his command are events greatly to be deplored; and in my judgment the government should persist in its demand for the surrender for trial and punishment of all Indians guilty of murder in connection with these affairs, and should visit upon the guilty the full penalty of their offences. If Indians, who subsist upon the bounty of the government, can commit with impunity crimes such as these, and if the United States fails to punish them, the savages will find in these facts encouragement to repeat the outrages when opportunity and inclination shall prompt them to do so, while swift punishment in the present cases will teach these people, who understand little besides force, a wholesome lesson.

EXPENDITURES, APPROPRIATIONS AND ESTIMATES.

The annual expenditures of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, were $42,653,723 62.

The appropriations available for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, aggregated $45,076,702 95; those for 1879 were $53,016,040 96, and those for the current fiscal year amounted to $46,269,821 94.

The estimates for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, are $40,380,428 93, to which amount they have been reduced from $54,396,643 14, for which they were originally submitted to me. The reductions, in detail, may be found in the Book of Estimates, except in cases where unfavorable considerations have caused entire items to be finally omitted, and this exception applies principally to the civil establishment, which includes salaries and contingent expenses of the permanent departmental offices, and these estimates amount to $[illegible],159,460.

The military establishment is estimated for on the basis of 25,450 enlisted men, the Signal Corps being by law allowed 450 men not to be included in the 25,000. Under this head the estimates for the current fiscal year were $29,335,727 33; the appropriations to meet the same were $26,978,847 33, and the present estimates are for $29,319,794 78.

The estimates for the public works, as reduced, are $7,557,034 42, which amount is $393,043 34 less than the estimates for 1879, $113,946 88 less than those for 1880 and $3,237,460 19 less than the appropriations for 1880, which were $10,794,464 61.

The amounts appropriated for "fortifications and other works of defence" during the last five years have been insufficient to preserve all such government property from waste. This fact *per se* accounts for the annual increase in the amounts suggested for these works by the Chief of Engineers. Under this title the estimates for 1880, which were $3,188,500, were reduced by me to $1,000,000, and were favorably considered in Congressional appropriations for $150,000; and the present estimates, rendered in detail, for $4,028,500, have been reduced in the aggregate to $1,000,000, which amount could be wisely and properly applied to the preservation and care of these works.

The estimates for rivers and harbors, rendered by items for $14,326,650, I have reduced in the aggregate to $5,015,000, which was the total of the amount appropriated for the fiscal year 1877, and which seems to have been sufficient for the promotion of the general commerce of the country during that time.

The miscellaneous estimates are $2,344,139 73, of which amount about one-fourth appertains annually to the departmental collection and diffusion of valuable official data, such as the observation and report of storms through the Signal Service, the compilation and publication of official records of the war of the rebellion and the like, and the remaining portion (which is over one million five hundred thousand dollars) is made up of items wholly relative to certain moral obligations of the government, such as the support of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, the furnishing of artificial limbs and other appliances to disabled soldiers and the care of national cemeteries.

The aggregate of the estimates for the next fiscal year is $2,273,294 69 less than the amount of actual expenditures of 1879, $5,889,393 01 less than the appropriations available for the service of the fiscal year 1880, and is $7,289 40 less than the estimates for 1880, which were for "a less sum of money than any annual estimates rendered to Congress from this department for a period of at least eleven years," as shown in my last annual report.

UNION AND CONFEDERATE WAR RECORDS.

The preparation of these records for publication is progressing satisfactorily under the efficient management of Colonel R. N. Scott, of the army. The War Department agent for collecting such Confederate records as may be placed, by gift or loan, at the disposal of the government has been very successful. The Southern Historical Society has placed its collection at the service of the department, and valuable documents have been furnished by Generals Johnston, Pemberton, Wheeler, Jones, Ruggles and others. In fact, there is a general disposition on the part of ex-Confederate officers to contribute material to the official history of the war. In a few instances records of the Confederate armies are held for sale, but Colonel Scott renews his objection to the purchase of such documents; and in his views I concur. Attention is invited to the fact that as yet no provision has been made for publishing any of the records. An appropriation for the composition, stereotyping and printing of proof copies of the records for 1881 is recommended. Extra compensation is asked for two of the Adjutant-General's clerks, specially connected with the work of the War Records Office; and I recommend that this be granted.

BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE.

Under the head of "Bureau of Military Justice" the Secretary says:—

The Judge Advocate General recommends that the legislation heretofore initiated in the Senate for making gambling in the army a punishable offence be renewed, and the bill heretofore proposed for the purpose or some similar provision be enacted by Congress.

He further indicates defects in the seventy-second and 104th articles of war as embarrassing to the administration of military justice, and recommends that they be removed by legislation.

The Judge Advocate General renews his former recommendations for some declaratory legislation in reference to the 103d article of war—the military statute of limitation.

The 103d article of war provides that no person shall be liable to be tried and punished by a General Court Martial for any offence which appears to have been committed more than two years before the issuing of the order for such trial, unless, by reason of having absented himself, or of some other manifest impediment, he shall not have been amenable to justice within that period. Until recently these saving words of the statute had been generally understood in the army to be of equivalent effect to the terms "fleeing from justice," as used in section 1,045, Revised Statutes, to defeat the operation of the statute of limitation in the Federal Courts, and which long ago received judicial definition. But late opinions of the Attorney General have held that mere absence from the army without leave does not necessarily amount, in law, to the impediment to arrest and trial within the meaning of the Articles of War, but that in every case it was a question of fact for the Court whether, by reason of such absence, a deserter had or not been amenable to justice. * * * As a settlement of the whole question upon a satisfactory basis I would advise, in conformity with the views of the Judge Advocate General, that some certain term of amenability be fixed in the case of deserters. This term, however, ought not, in my opinion, to be too short, lest a hope of early immunity should be held out to encourage a crime already too prevalent; nor should the law to be enacted be complicated by any proviso in reference to the offenders having been within or without the territorial domain of the United States, which, as a rule, it would be wholly impossible for the government to ascertain or prove.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The Quartermaster General reports that the expenditures of the Quartermaster's Department during the fiscal year have been $10,758,001 11; that $12,135 50 was transferred from the appropriation for support of the military prison to the Commissary Department on account of subsistence of prisoners; that $199,108 26 has been covered into the surplus fund in the Treasury, and that the balance to credit of Quartermaster's Department appropriation in Treasury on 30th June, 1879, was $1,219,701 13. The expenditures of the department have decreased. In 1874 they were $14,558,317 11; in 1879 they were $10,758,001 11.

The operations of the department for the year are sketched, in the course of which the statement is made that our army is more thoroughly provided with transportation than most others. It is always on a war footing, and when a savage tribe attacks a party and commits a massacre the relieving troops move, as in a recent instance, on a few hours' notice, a thousand miles from their cantonments to begin a march of 180 miles, through a desert, mountainous country, the instant they reach the base of supplies on the Pacific Railroad, and complete it in less than three days and rescue the survivors. Continuing the Secretary says:—

The Quartermaster General calls attention to the inequality of recent legislation on the subject of officers' horses, and the hardship imposed on officers in some districts by abolishing the issues of fuel. Officers east of the Mississippi suffer from the first, those in the far western wilderness from the second.

CONVICT LABOR.

Congress, by the law of March 3, 1879, required the manufacture of army supplies, when economical, to be established at the military prison at Fort Leavenworth. The boots and shoes and chairs for the army are being made there by convict labor. Measures are instituted to begin the manufacture of harness at the prison, and the question of transferring to the prison the manufacture of wagons, ambulances and other vehicles is under consideration.

The Secretary quotes from the report of the Commissary General, stating the operations of the Subsistence Department and the recommendations made, which are without special interest.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The total number of deaths from all causes reported among the white troops was 256, or 12 per 1,000 of mean strength. Of these, 162, or 7 per 1,000 of strength, died of disease and 104, or 5 per 1,000 of strength, of wounds, accidents and injuries. The proportion of deaths from all causes to cases treated was 1 to 142.

The total number of white soldiers reported to have been discharged the service on "Surgeon's Certificate of Disability" was 677, or 31 per 1,000 of mean strength.

The total number of deaths of colored soldiers reported from all cases was 28, or 14 per 1,000 of mean strength. Of these, 15, or 8 per 1,000 of strength, died of disease and 13, or 6 per 1,000 of strength, of wounds, accidents and injuries.

The proportion of deaths from all causes to cases treated was 1 to 140.

The total number of colored soldiers reported to have been discharged on "Surgeon's Certificate of Disability" was 42, or 22 per 1,000 of mean strength.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS.

The Secretary quotes extensively from the report of the Chief of Engineers, which has been already made public. In reference to our seacoast defences he says:—

The Chief of Engineers very truly remarks that, in the present condition of our seacoast defences, injuries to our citizens abroad and insults to our flag could not be resented with that vigor and promptitude demanded by the honor and dignity of the nation, and justified by a knowledge that, come what may, our navy yards, maritime cities and depots for military and naval stores will be unassailable behind impregnable fortifications and obstructions; and I commend the views of that officer respecting the necessity for reasonable appropriations for our seacoast defences, as expressed in his report, to the earnest attention of Congress and the country. * * * * * *

I again ask attention to the necessity of legislation to protect the channels of rivers and fairways of harbors from injuries arising from wanton deposits by passing vessels of ballast, ashes from steamers and of all substances which would tend to the formation of shoals therein, and also to protect the breakwaters, piers and other public works constructed by the United States from trespass upon as well as injury thereto. * * * * *

The survey of the territory west of the 100th meridian has been continued in the States of Colorado, Texas, Nevada, California and Oregon, and in the Territories of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Washington, and in connection with this work a special survey of Great Salt Lake has been completed.

No funds were available for the prosecution of the field work on this survey after June 30, 1879, and all parties were withdrawn from the field on or before that date. There are eight engineer officers now employed in the Western military divisions and departments in making surveys and in collecting and mapping the geographical and topographical information obtained in scouts and campaigns against the hostile Indians. Maps prepared in this way are of great value to the War Department and to the army. It is very desirable that the unexplored areas in the country liable to be traversed by the troops and hostile Indians be mapped as rapidly as possible, and an appropriation of $50,000 is earnestly recommended for this purpose.

The Secretary quotes at length from the reports of the Chief of Ordnance and the Chief Signal Officer, both of which have been already made public.

THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

I transmit herewith the annual report of the Board of Managers of the Military Academy at West Point, and invite attention to their recommendations.

It appears that the enlargement and improvement of the cadet barracks is demanded by considerations both of health and of comfort, and it is accordingly recommended.

The Superintendent, Major General Schofield, reports that it is very important to provide suitable accommodations at West Point for the Board of Visitors and other prominent persons who visit the academy officially during the annual examination in June. The small hotel situated on the plain is the property of the post fund, the United States having contributed nothing toward its erection. It was designed for the accommodation of the parents and friends of cadets visiting West Point and of officers transiently at the post. During the commencement season it is wholly occupied by the Board of Visitors and other officials, greatly to the discomfort of all other guests, mainly the parents and friends of the cadets, for whose accommodation the hotel was specially intended.

I concur with General Schofield in recommending an appropriation for the erection of a cottage adjacent to the hotel, for the use of the Board of Visitors and other official visitors to the Academy. It is believed that $10,000 would be a sufficient sum for the purpose.

LEAVENWORTH MILITARY PRISON.

The annual reports from the Leavenworth Military Prison indicate a very satisfactory progress and condition. The labor of the prisoners has been utilized as far as possible in manufacture of articles needed for the use of the army. Extensions have been made to the buildings, and alterations of buildings already in use have been made to adapt them to the better occupancy, both for health and labor. Prisoners have been employed largely in mechanical labor, partly in the work of building the prison wall, but chiefly in the manufacture of shoes, tent pins and barrack chairs for the army. The number is reported as follows:—8,530 chairs, 40,000 tent pins and 51,756 pairs of shoes. The manufacture of boots has only been recently commenced, because of contracts previously made with private manufacturers. The prison farm now contains about fifty acres, all but seven of which have been cleared, fenced, and are cultivated by prisoners' labor. Particular attention has been given to sanitary measures, diet of prisoners, &c., and the report of the prison surgeon shows but three deaths in the year out of a monthly average strength of 327 men. The Governor of the prison makes satisfactory report in relation to the conduct of the prisoners, having but seldom to resort to any severe discipline. This is attested also by the fact that all but an exceedingly small percentage of prisoners secure their release sooner than the expiration of their full term, by earning an abatement under a regulation which allows five days' reduction for each month of good conduct. The duties required of the officers of the prison are exacting, and the manner of their performance is worthy of commendation. It is hoped that legislation, which was asked last winter, may be secured at the coming session of Congress to authorize the use of the earnings of prisoners and receipts for the sale of manufactured articles toward the maintenance of the prison.

GEO. W. McCRARY, Secretary of War.

LOCOMOTIVE GASES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Is it possible that no plan has ever been devised to prevent dirt and cinders in locomotives from escaping through the smoke pipe? This intolerable annoyance on the "L" roads should be stopped if there is any way to do it; or, better still, let us have the fireless locomotives we have heard about, and discard smoke and cinders altogether. Please agitate this subject and see that something is done by the "L" company.

A PHYSICIAN.

HAYDEN'S TRIAL.

PRESENT STATUS OF THE CASE—A BRIEF RESUME OF THE STATE'S TESTIMONY.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 23, 1879.

In the Hayden trial the State will this week nearly reach the conclusion of the testimony in chief, and it is not anticipated that more than a day or two of the succeeding week, at most, will be occupied. Two important witnesses are to come. One is Susan Hawley, half sister of the murdered girl, to whom the confession was made that she was going to the Big Rock, in the woods near an old abandoned roadway, to meet Hayden and obtain from him "quick medicine." Dr. Bailey, of Middletown, will be called to testify to Hayden's inquiries regarding female complaints of a certain nature. The presentation in the case of the nail marks discovered on Mary Stannard's cheek is the most important feature which remains to be brought in. These nail marks, it is claimed by the State, were imprinted by the heel of Hayden's left brogan, and their experts will produce diagrams and tables of measurements showing the close comparisons by location of the nails in the heel and the indentations in the cheek. This feature will be strongly fought by the defense, both on cross-examination of the State's experts and by the testimony of experts employed by the defence, who have found no difficulty in forming antagonistic opinions.

THE STATE LOSING WITNESSES.

Benjamin Stevens, an old man residing in Rockland, an intimate of the Stannards, and who was at one time strongly suspected of the murder, will probably never appear on the witness stand for the State. His health has been failing rapidly within a month, and it was reported yesterday that there are few chances that he will live. The State has already lost two witnesses by death—the undertaker who buried Mary Stannard's body and Mrs. Jane Studley, of Guilford, who employed the girl, and to whom she confessed her delicate condition. A part of the evidence of the latter, given at the first trial, has been presented in this, through a journalist who heard it, and in the event of Mr. Stevens' death a similar method may be adopted for getting his testimony at the first trial before the jury. The trial has been in progress since the 7th of October, or seven weeks, and it is a somewhat remarkable fact that no one of the twelve jurymen has been incapacitated by sickness from attending to his duties since the jury was first empanelled. This is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that five of the jurors are well advanced in years.

THE TESTIMONY REVIEWED.

The State has thus far put in a vast amount of circumstantial evidence. There is nothing of a direct nature to be obtained. They have shown the purchase of arsenic by Hayden on the morning of the murder, and, by expert testimony, that the arsenic found in the girl's stomach was of the same general character as the arsenic sold at the drug store where he purchased. It has also been shown that the arsenic from this store was wholly unlike the arsenic found in Hayden's barn two weeks after his arrest, and which he claims is what he purchased at that store. The fact that it was taken out of the original wrapper and put loosely in a tin box is commented on. The State has also shown that there was human blood on the small blade of Hayden's pocket knife, and that the stab in the girl's throat was inflicted with such a blade. These presentations were both by expert testimony, and included an interesting scientific lecture on blood corpuscles. Other facts shown by the State are that Hayden saw the girl the day before the murder; that he went to Middletown the next morning and bought arsenic; that he saw her when he returned about noon, and that at the time of the murder he was apart from any human being who can testify to his whereabouts. His story is that he was in his wood lot, but the State claims that he had both time and opportunity to meet the girl according to an appointment which it is asserted he made, and to commit the murder and return to the wood lot. It will be seen that this is all circumstantial, and, as to the expert testimony above described, experience teaches that juries attach little weight to it. The counsel for the State have presented their case with marked care and ability, and a similar presentation is anticipated from the experienced criminal lawyers representing Hayden. They will endeavor to break all the force of the evidence on arsenic by the testimony of men who have worked in arsenic mills, and who will say that the productions of any mill are far from uniform. They will bring experts on the heel print feature and the blood corpuscles on Hayden's knife blade. There will be many witnesses with stories of minor importance, but their chief reliance will be upon the story of Hayden, who, under Connecticut rules of practice, is allowed to testify in his own behalf. His wife will also be an important witness for him, and it may be said that through all her belief in his innocence has never weakened. On the cross-examination of the State's witnesses the counsel for the defence have scored many a point to the benefit of their client. He could not have been more ably defended.

PRESENT UNCERTAINTIES.

The question is everywhere asked, "What do you think the result will be?" Those who know least of the case, it is observed, are readiest with positive answers. Those who have attended the trial throughout are less confident. The testimony for the State, in the first place, is not yet all in. That for the defence is not opened. It is impossible to form anything like reasonable conclusions at this stage of the case. Convictions on circumstantial evidence are becoming rare in modern times. A fact commented upon is that Hayden is a Freemason, and two Masonic brethren are on the jury. Will this help the accused? The defence has taken many exceptions to the rulings of the Court on the admission of evidence, and in the event of a conviction would go up to the Supreme Court of Errors on a motion for a new trial. Should the jury disagree, and this is very possible, there must, as a matter of course, be another trial. So it will be seen that it is yet a long way to the punishment of Hayden, that is, if he is the guilty one. The defence has been groping in the dark in this most mysterious case for some other person who would have a reasonable motive for committing the crime, but no one has yet been found. This is their misfortune. Everything pointing to the accused, and nothing positively to anybody else.

SHOT THEMSELVES.

George L. Sherry, a single man, about thirty years of age, residing at No. 40 Clinton avenue, Brooklyn, was found early yesterday morning in a yard on Vanderbilt, near Park avenue, that city, bleeding from a wound in the left breast. Although alive he was too weak from loss of blood to speak, but resting in his right hand was a pistol. His wound is serious. He was removed to the City Hospital, where an effort was made to find the bullet but without success. The physicians, after a short consultation, decided that he could not recover. In the pockets of Sherry's clothing were found several cards, papers and a letter. The letter was addressed to his brother William, a member of Engine Company No. 10, and dated "New York, November 22." In it Sherry stated that he intended taking his life in consequence of ill-health from which he thought he would never recover. The unfortunate man was employed as bookkeeper in the factory of Pratt & Co., at Williamsburg.

John S. Francis, proprietor of a hat store at No. 613 Fulton street, Brooklyn, attempted to commit suicide yesterday morning by shooting himself. Procuring a small revolver he went into a room at the rear of the store and discharged the contents of one barrel into his left breast. He was discovered soon after and medical aid summoned. The wound being of a serious character he was removed to the City Hospital. Francis said he was unable to tell why he had shot himself. He has been very despondent of late, and it is thought was temporarily deranged when he committed the act.

NO INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

A circular was read in all the New Jersey Catholic churches yesterday from Bishop Corrigan, announcing that on and after December 1 no money held in trust for parishioners by the Bishop will draw interest. It is stated by clergymen that, in view of the sorrow which has come to the Church in other places through the holding of peoples' money, Bishop Corrigan is desirous of having his people relieve him and his clergy from the very large responsibility and labor of caring for savings. Some time ago the first step in the matter was taken, when it was announced that only four per cent interest would be paid; but it appears to have been necessary to finally stop all interest, with a view to securing the desired relief from responsibility and care.

FIRE AT JAMAICA.

A fire was discovered shortly before midnight on Saturday in the house of John Ryder, of Jamaica. The family were all absent in Brooklyn. When Mr. Ryder went away on Saturday evening he left everything secure, and there was no fire in any of the rooms. When the discovery was made the fire had burned away the floors of the front and back parlors, and was creeping up the south side of the building to the second story. Several holes were cut and water poured in and soon the flames were extinguished. An examination showed that the fire started in the kitchen closet. The damage is not less than $1,000 and there is $2,500 insurance in the Dutchess County Mutual Company. The damage to the furniture is about $1,000 and there is $500 insurance in the Home and $800 in the Continental. How the fire originated is a mystery, and robbery is hinted at.

COURT CALENDARS—THIS DAY.

UNITED STATES DISTICT COURT—Held by Judge Choate.—G. Luhrman vs. Steamboat M. Taylor; A. G Fisher vs. Schooner L. B. Ives; C. Gibson vs. Canalboat F. H. Tripp; N. Roer vs. Steamship Baltic; W. Brown vs. F. P. Osborn et al.; O. C. Wilson vs. Barge I. Belknap; E. C. Eustace vs. Barge I. Belknap; A. H. Cole vs. Barge I. Belknap; F. H. Smith vs. J. M. Briggs.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—CONCERT.

PART I.

Rossini's "Stabat Mater."

Soloists—Mlle. Valleria, Miss Drasdil, Signori Campanini and Galassi, Herr Behrens.

PART II.

Morceau à la Gavotte, "L'Ingenue" ..... Arditi

By the orchestra.

"Ave Maria" ..... Gounod

Mme. Emilie Ambre.

Prayer—"O Signore," (Lombardi) ..... Verdi

By the chorus.

Airs— a. "Still ist die nacht" ..... Abt
b. "Svinaherde" ..... Swedish National

Wedding March ..... Mendelssohn

By the orchestra.

Owing to the complete success which attended the late production of Rossini's "Stabat Mater" by members of Her Majesty's Opera Company Mr. Mapleson gave it again last evening at the Academy of Music, substituting Miss Drasdil for Miss Cary, and supplementing the Rossini selection with a miscellaneous musical programme. The main feature of the concert was, of course, the "Stabat Mater," which was sung with even a greater degree of excellence than was attained on the occasion of its first interpretation. The general improvement was so great, the minor faults which have heretofore been noted were so markedly reduced, that it is only just to say, to all concerned in the matter, that the "Stabat Mater," as sung last night, was the most perfect interpretation of the work that has been had in America. This opinion must not include a comparison between Miss Cary and Miss Drasdil. The verdict would have been the same had either of these excellent artists sung last evening, and the favorable criticism refers to the rendition of the work as a whole, and not to any individual voice or score. The solos were all admirably done, the chorus was much better, was truer and prompter than before, and the orchestra, which formerly was inclined to be overpowerful in many passages, was altogether satisfactory in yesterday's programme.

As the delivery of the various numbers has been considered at length in the HERALD on a previous occasion only to those in which Miss Drasdil was specially interested need reference now be made. The duo (Quis est homo) was sung with a great deal of taste, the voices of the soprano and contralto blending most harmoniously and bringing out forcibly the beauties of the composition. The difficulties of the music were admirably met and the errors were but few. Once Mlle. Valleria was flat on an ascending scale; Miss Drasdil was inclined to clip the short notes in the solo, which detracted from the repose or dignity of the passage, and both of the ladies, in the earlier concerted phrases, failed to follow the composer's wishes as to light and shade. But even these faults were not so strongly marked as to become radical blemishes, and a mention of their existence is merely necessary in a careful consideration of the duo. The finale was finely done, and the entire duo was warmly and justly applauded. Miss Drasdil's particular effort was in her solo, "Fac ut portem," in which her medium and lower notes came out with peculiar richness of quality. It was most vociferously encored, and as it was really a most meritorious performance it can bear a few remarks as to the treatment of the various passages. The opening bars (Fac ut portem) were delivered with great breadth and feeling and in superb voice, but the effect was weakened immediately afterward by the thin and "tinny" quality of the F sharp on the word *passionis*. The sustained note which follows, and the final phrase was very well sung, the concluding notes coming out in grand style. The "Ob amorem filii" would have been very effective but for the flatting on the first note. The words are precated twice afterward, and where the second repetition occurs the notes above the staff were excellently given, but the passage which follows was carelessly phrased and was unsatisfactory. The cadenza was a fine bit of vocalism. It was not sung as the composer wrote it, and a faulty change of vowel in the last bar marred some of its effects; but nothwithstanding these drawbacks it was a brilliant effort and produced good results, a storm of applause greeting Miss Drasdil as she concluded the cavatina.

Part second gave the audience a view of Signor Arditi's face, the renowned conductor facing the auditorium to lead the band through his "l'Inegnue," a dainty composition which he played here last year. It is in his best style and full of charming little musical contrasts, which the orchestra brought out admirably. To watch Arditi lead his band, and observe his methods, is to receive a lesson in style, and it gives one an insight into the real cause of his success as a conductor—his extraordinary attention to those under his baton and a constant endeavor to instil into his musicians' playing, by gesture and word, his own conception of the composer's intentions. Were one absolutely deaf a good idea of the music being played by his orchestra could be gained by merely watching the earnest face and ready baton of the zealous conductor.

Mme. Ambre sang Gounod's "Ave Maria" very well, delivering with considerable skill the introductory bars leading up to the B flat, which she managed to sustain fairly, but not with a great deal of power. She has a good conception of this composition of Gounod's, and while she does not do anything extraordinary in it she does not do anything, from end to end, with which serious fault could be found. She was a little abrupt, it might be said, on the short notes, and there was a little hitch on the note accompanying the last syllable of the word "Benedicta," but the selection was for all that well done and very creditable to the singer. Her voice was sustained most admirably by the orchestra, to which was added a piano and organ accompaniment.

The chorus work was good, but called for no special comment.

Herr Behrens' airs were sung in thorough good taste, and were heartily appreciated and applauded by the large audience.

The orchestra concluded the programme with the hackneyed Mendelssohn "Wedding March," played in a most finished manner. It deserved a recognition from the house; but the people hurried out in "double-quick" style, as only an American audience can, when it takes the notion to bolt for the street cars. The occasion reminded one of the old story of the congregation that melted away, under the effects of a long sermon, until no one was left but the sexton, who, finally despairing of there being any conclusion to the discourse, laid the keys on the chancel rail, apologized for the interruption and said to the preacher:—"When you get through, just lock up, won't you?"

The keys were not laid on the rail last night, but Arditi played on manfully to the end of the march and long after the building was deserted. No applause followed, and, turning in his seat, he discovered that his ungrateful audience had gone, and he was left to lock up.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—GILMORE'S SUNDAY EVENING CONCERT.

An unusually large Sunday evening audience occupied the Grand Opera House last night, and the programme was in every way worthy of the occasion. Mr. Gilmore has the happy faculty of selecting both music and musicians adapted to the popular taste, and the fact that the frequent encores necessitated the prolongation of the performance until after eleven o'clock in itself illustrates the success which he has achieved. With the artistic work of the band the public are already familiar, and no comment is necessary. It rendered the overture from Kreutzer's "Night in Granada," gems from Meyerbeer's operas, including the famous "Shadow song" from Dinorah, the Turkish march and a Chinese march by Fanciulli, played by the band for the first time. Mr. Alfred Pease, the pianist, received no less than three recalls and well deserved them. Signor Liberati and Mr. J. Levy, the cornetists, were likewise encored. Both played at their best, and the existing rivalry between the two artists was evidently appreciated by the audience. Miss Ethel Rowe sang with much grace the air and variations from the "Carnival of Venice," and was also recalled, arousing the greatest enthusiasm of the evening, from both audience and band, by her marvellous execution and the ease with which she dwelt, not merely in the region of the high C's, but ascended to the altitude of F. Her notes in this register in their flageolet-like character are simply marvellous. With a stronger voice, a less mechanical method and a larger sympathy she would make a permanent sensation on the operatic or any other stage. Mr. Innis performed a trombone solo, by Hartmann, for which he was warmly applauded, and M. de Leauhedey played a number of selections with admirable taste on the zither, which is becoming quite a favorite instrument in fashionable English and American circles. Miss Marie E. Gibson made her first appearance in public as a vocalist, choosing for her debut Gatz's song, "Sing, sweet bird," following it in response to a recall with "Old Folks at Home." She has a sweet, well cultivated voice, and will doubtless prove an acquisition to the concert stage. Mr. Carl Lanzer was again heard on the violin in his exquisite harmonies, playing as his selection Miska Hauser's "Bird on a Tree," and for an encore a charming German melody. From the foregoing it may be inferred that the concert was in every way attractive. Its chief fault was its length, but this was due to the demands of the audience.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

"Dr. Clyde" is the present success at the Boston Museum.

Gorman's Church Choir Pinafore Company tonight enter on their third week.

Mr. Sothern is meeting with his usual good luck at Abbey's Park Theatre, Boston.

Signor A. Tomasi has joined the Emma Abbott Opera Troupe as the conductor of the orchestra.

It is rumored that the name of Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera, now in preparation, is "Paul and Mabel."

Salvini has reappeared at the Teatro Carcana, in Milan. He played Othello and was rapturously applauded.

The second soirée of the New York Philharmonic Club will take place at Chickering Hall on the 2d of December.

Max Maretzek is presenting "Sleepy Hollow" in the West. The Chicago papers speak of the opera in terms of praise.

The sixth grand concert and ball of L'Orpheon Française will take place at Irving Hall on Thanksgiving evening, November 27.

Miss Abbie Carrington will sing the "Stabat Mater" in Baltimore December 8, and the "Messiah" in Washington, D. C., December 22.

Miss Emma Thursby will make her first *rentrée* in Brooklyn, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, on Thursday evening, the 2d of December.

Mme. Marie Roze is reported to have made a success as Aida in London. Mr. Henry Mapleson is now directing the opera at Her Majesty's Theatre.

Mr. Oscar M. Newell has just published a grand march, entitled "America," dedicated to the Seventh regiment. It is said to be an effective composition of the kind.

The dates of the Staten Island Philharmonic Society concerts are Friday, December 16; January 23; February 27 and April 2. This is the fifth season of these concerts.

A newly-arrived company of Japanese acrobats and jugglers are to make their first appearance in this country at Niblo's Garden to-night. They will take part in the specialty act of "Enchantment."

On the 6th of December Mr. Rafael Joseffy will play for a church benefit in one of the Madison avenue churches, and on the 13th of the same month a series of piano recitals will be begun at Chickering Hall.

A concert will be given at Steinway Hall on Tuesday evening, December 16, for the benefit of the Seventh regiment new armory fund. The principal artists of Her Majesty's Opera Company and others will appear.

Miss Louisa Leslie, the well known elocutionist, will give a miscellaneous recital at No. 64 Madison avenue, in the Mott Memorial Hall, on Saturday afternoon, in behalf of the Mexican branch of the Protestant Church.

One of the tenors of the Ferrari Opera Troupe died suddenly in Rio Janeiro the last week of October. J. White, the Cuban violinist, and Bottesini, the contra-basso performer, are among the stars who have recently arrived in that city.

Among the artists who will appear at the New York Circus this week are Mlle. Emma Stickney, the side saddle equestrienne; King Sarbro, the famous Japanese specialist; Mlle. Jennie Ewers, equestrienne, and Charles Ewers, the hurdle rider, &c.

The Standard Theatre Opera Company is playing "Trial by Jury" and "Pinafore" through the East. The cast remains the same as it was this fall at the Standard, with the exception of Miss Jarbeau, whose place as Hebe is supplied by Miss Annie Carter.

"Camille" will be played at the Wednesday matinée at the Grand Opera House. On Thanksgiving Day Mr. Booth will appear as Don Cæsar de Bazan. Next Monday he personates Richelieu. On the 10th of December he will be followed by Mr. Sothern.

Mr. W. H. Sherwood, the pianist, will give the first in a series of three recitals at Steinway Hall to-morrow afternoon. The selections are from Bach, Schumann, Chopin, Moskowski and Liszt. The second recital is announced for Wednesday and the last on Saturday afternoon.

Messrs. Aldrich and Parsloe have been greeted with full houses all over New England, where they are presenting Bartley Campbell's drama, "My Partner." Their December engagements include Utica, Troy, Albany, Philadelphia, at the Park Theatre, Brooklyn, at Haverly's Theatre and Williamsburg.

At Daly's Theatre "Wives" will be retained on the boards during the greater part of the week. It was intended by the management to produce "An Arabian Night" last evening, but for sufficient reasons it was postponed until Saturday. "Wives" is an interesting play.

A grand concert in aid of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. James will be given at Steinway Hall to-morrow evening, in which Mme. Ambre, Mlle. Valleria, Signor Runcio, Signor del Puente and Herr Behrens, of the Grand Opera Company, and Mr. Franz Rummel, the pianist, and Mr. M. Van Gelder, violinist, will take part.

Mr. Carlos Fiorentino, in his grand vocal and instrumental concert at Chickering Hall to-night, will be assisted by the following artists:—Miss Evelina Hartz, soprano; Miss Eloise Elliot, soprano (first appearance); Miss Antonia Henne, contralto; Miss Morgan, harpist; Mr. Jacob Graff, tenor; Mr. W. F. Mills, pianist; Mr. Charles Werner, violoncello; Mr. Caryl Florio, accompanist. The programme promises much entertainment.

The sparkling operetta, "Der Seecadet," was attractive enough to draw crowded houses at the Thalia Theatre during the first four days of the past week, and the same piece will be continued for some time to come, having now become very popular. On Friday and Saturday evenings the performance consisted of Schiller's masterpiece, "Die Räuber," in which Mr. Henry Conried sustained the *rôle* of Franz Moor in an artistic manner.

A concert will be given in Chickering Hall on Saturday, the 29th inst., under the auspices of the Spanish Choral Society for the benefit of the sufferers by the flood in Spain. The following artists will assist:—Señor Aramburo and Mme. Adini, Mlle. Estelle Buzzetti, Gaston Blay, violinist; Ramieri Vilanova, pianist; Miss Rosalba Beecher, Signor Moderati, and the French choral society L'Espérance. The Spanish residents of the city intend that the concert shall be a brilliant success.

Miss Hauk has just returned to England, after a most brilliant "starring" tour at the German opera houses. Her Lenta, in Wagner's "Flying Dutchman," is highly praised by the critics of Mayence. In Baden-Baden Miss Hauk sang before a house containing all the princes and their suites present. The Empress of Germany was absent at the Strasbourg manœuvres, but commanded her Obersthofmeister, inn to express to our countrywoman her regret at not being able to hear her sing her "Lieblingslieder."

The Oratorio Society of New York—Dr. Damrosch, conductor—will give Mendelssohn's oratorio, "Elijah," at Steinway Hall, during the present week. The public rehearsal will take place on Friday afternoon and the concert on Saturday evening. The soloists are Mrs. Mary Louise Swift, Mrs. Amy Sherwin, Miss Anna Drasdil, Mr. Ch. Fritsch, Mr. Franz Remmertz and Mr. Myron W. Whitney (from Boston). Mr. Franz Remmertz will sing at the rehearsal and Mr. Myron W. Whitney will sing at the concert.

"The pitch at the Royal Italian Opera, London," says the *Athenæum*, "is to be lowered next season to the *diapason normal*. This alteration, which will involve an outlay of more than £1,000 for new wind instruments, has been decided upon mainly at the instance of Mme. Adelina Patti, whose voice has deepened considerably of recent years at